



**News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office**  
**Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Mayor**  
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**Schools Transition Planning Commission Sets Agenda For Progress**

Work is now officially underway to develop a plan for the merger of the public schools in Memphis and Shelby County.

Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., convened a joint meeting last night of the 21-member Transition Planning Commission and the new 23-member Shelby County Board of Education.

**"It was a productive session for the commission, the school board members and their staffs. Their task will be challenging,"** said Mayor Luttrell.

Last night's event at the University of Memphis included an overview of the timeline to develop a merger plan. Shelby County Attorney Kelly Rayne also urged members to closely follow legal guidelines and ensure all meetings will be open to the public.

The commission will submit the merger plan to the State of Tennessee next spring. The plan will then be considered by the new Shelby County Board of Education. The new Shelby County Board of Education members will be sworn in next month.

The Transition Planning Commission is a skilled group of people who serve in various professions, from school principals to a university president.

Cato Johnson, Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare, will serve as a key advisor on education to Mayor Luttrell during the next several months.

Other staff members from Mayor Luttrell's office will assist the Transition Planning Commission. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 29th, 4:30 p.m., at the Shelby County Code Enforcement Building at 6465 Mullins Station Road.

**(End of News Release)**